

Cassin Vireo's, Phainopeplas, and Swainson's and Hermit thrushes. We have not even mentioned the chaparral and southern California endemics yet! In the area, possible resident birds include California, Spotted, and Green-tailed towhees, California and Mountain quails, California Thrasher, Wrentit, and California Scrub-Jay. Last, catch *ALL* six hummingbird species in the area, including Anna's, Allen's, Rufous, Costa's, Black-Chinned, and the smallest bird in the United States, the Calliope Hummingbird. You do not want to miss this meeting!

The meeting will feature a full schedule of keynote speakers and scientific talks given by ornithologists, ecologists, students, and banders on current topics and innovations. Special awards will be given for top student presentations. We will also be holding our annual silent auction. Nature-related item donations are accepted.

We will also have active workshops featuring the latest and greatest gear and techniques in field ornithology and banding. A new MOTUS tower was recently installed in the Bear Divide area! Some potential topics will include MOTUS tag deployment and set-up, molt techniques, and feather analysis. There will also be a visit to the Bear Divide Banding Station which was established in 2021.

Call for papers

We invite abstract submissions for oral presentations, workshops, and posters. While banding birds constitutes much of what we do, the WBBA and its members encompass much more within ornithology, and every year we showcase this fact at our annual meeting. Please see our website for instructions on how to submit an abstract - www.westernbirdbanding.org.

WBBA 2022 Meeting Summary

University of California, Davis

14-17 September 2022

Chrissy Kondrat

This September, members and guests joined the Western Bird Banding Association for the 2022 Annual Meeting held at the University of California at Davis. Fifty-seven people registered and participated in the conference, with 12 new members joining WBBA!

The first night social began with a tour of the UC Davis Museum of Wildlife and Fish Biology's bird collection (<https://mwfb.ucdavis.edu>). The collection included bird specimens from near and far, including a toxic New Guinea species known as the Hooded Pitohui (*Pitohui dichrous*), a vast collection of owls, and so much more. We then feasted on a variety of pizzas and good conversation in the courtyard next to the museum.

The first day of meeting, 15 September, began with a guided bird walk along Putah Creek in the UC Davis Arboretum, located on campus grounds. The meeting portion of the day began with feature speaker and host, the Curator of the UC Davis Museum of Wildlife and Fish Biology, Andrew Engilis Jr., who discussed the documentation of avian diversity in the Sacramento landscape through the many research programs sponsored by the Museum. Peter Pyle grabbed everyone's attention as Saturday morning's keynote speaker with an update on the upcoming new edition of his landmark *Identification Guide to North American Birds*, better known as the 'Pyle Guide'. The morning and afternoon sessions of talks shared interesting and informative presentations of research from banders throughout the region. The list of Friday speakers and workshop details can be found at https://www.westernbirdbanding.org/_files/ugd/5a2de9_2305c8fd919944ad9b18f548fa00baad.pdf. All talks and workshop abstracts are published in the next issue of NABB.

While the WBBA board met on the afternoon of September 15th, two workshops were available to attendees including helpful lessons on avian first-aid with Jennifer Brown and Rebecca Duer, DVM; and how to work with specimens with Andrew Engilis. The Thursday night Keynote Speaker, Professor Oct. - Dec.

Lisa Tell, enthralled us with a presentation on hummingbird research and some of the work she and her colleagues have done using nanotags on these tiny birds.

Scientific presentations continued throughout the day on Friday, 16 September. The meeting portion ended with a hands-on geotag workshop led by Chrissy Kondrat. Participants were able to learn how to apply nanotags from LOTEK on specimens for monitoring research efforts using Motus radio-telemetry technology. After an amazing dinner and an exciting silent auction, Friday evening's Keynote Speaker, Dr. Robert Meese, shared his research stories and results gathered from many years of working with Tricolored Blackbirds (*Agelaius tricolor*).

Before attendees migrated home, Saturday morning (17 September) offered a choice of two field trips, to Stone Lake National Wildlife Refuge or to the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area.

A huge thank you to everyone who came out, and a big thank you to the volunteers from Humboldt Bay Bird Observatory and Bear Divide, who helped immensely with setup and behind-the-scenes organization. Missed this one? Do not fret! Our next upcoming meeting will be 6-9 May 2023 at the Bear Divide banding station outside of Los Angeles. Get excited about some epic west coast spring migration!

If you have not become a WBBA member yet, do not hesitate to sign up today to support our efforts to inform and assist bird banders across the region with our annual meetings, informational website, and tools. <https://www.westernbirdbanding.org/membership>



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